



December 15, 2014

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **December 8 – December 15**.

COCA Updates are disseminated biweekly. More frequent distributions may occur when there is emergency information or an event-specific update to share. The next COCA Update is scheduled for **December 22**.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

Additional Resources

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)

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Topics and Highlights

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COCA News and Announcements

Upcoming COCA Calls:

TODAY: EMS and Ebola: Field Experience with Transporting Patients

CE = [Free Continuing Education](#)

Date: Monday, December 15, 2014

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (EDT)

Dial In Number: 888-972-6898 (U.S. Callers); 630-395-0194 (International Callers)

Passcode: 5076538

Audio Streaming: <http://event.on24.com/r.htm?e=904387&s=1&k=03FDB410EBC7591029B2E4F85D2F0F3F>

Healthcare systems across the United States are actively preparing to treat patients with Ebola. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) play an important role in the identification, assessment, and transportation of suspected or confirmed patients with Ebola. As designated treatment facilities, Emory University Hospital and the University of Nebraska Medical Center have received patients with confirmed Ebola. During this COCA Call, clinicians will learn about the field experiences of EMS personnel in the two jurisdictions and discuss unique planning considerations for EMS.

emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2014/callinfo_121514.asp

HIV Care Continuum: Keeping the Spotlight on Screening, Prevention, and Treatment

CE = [Free Continuing Education](#)

Date: Thursday, December 18, 2014

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (EDT)

Dial In Number: 800-621-8495 (U.S. Callers); 517-308-9286 (International Callers)

Passcode: 1941601

Viral suppression is the goal of HIV medical care. Yet, in 2011, only 40% of people living with HIV received HIV medical care and only 30% achieved viral suppression. Many persons living with HIV are not in medical care or are undiagnosed. When patients with HIV are in medical care, they are more likely to be prescribed antiretroviral medications, achieve viral suppression, and have a normal lifespan. Clinicians play a critical role in helping their patients move through the HIV care continuum by influencing the likelihood of patients engaging in medical care.

During this COCA Webinar, clinicians will learn about current strategies to engage patients in HIV testing, counseling and medical care.

http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2014/callinfo_121814.asp

Recent COCA Calls:

Caring for Patients with Ebola in U.S. Hospitals: A Nursing Perspective

Date: Monday, November 24, 2014

emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2014/callinfo_112414.asp

Archived COCA conference calls are available at emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp.

Free continuing education credits (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) are available for most calls. For more information about free CE, visit emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp

CDC Emergency Response – CDC Response to 2014 Ebola in the United States and West Africa

NEW: NIOSH Factsheet: The Buddy System

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/buddy-system.pdf>

NEW: Updated Case Counts

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/case-counts.html>

NEW: Information for Airlines

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/airlines/index.html>

NEW: Poster: How to Safely Give ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution)

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ors-instructions.pdf>

CDC News and Announcements

CDC Science Clips: Volume 6, Issue: 50 – (CDC)

Each week select science clips are shared with the public health community to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge. The focus is applied public health research and prevention science that has the capacity to improve health now.

www.cdc.gov/library/sciclips/issues/

Public Health Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness and Response – (CDC)

Find preparedness resources for all hazards.

emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources for Clinicians – (CDC)

Find online and in-person training resources at

emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

Food and Water Needs: Preparing for a Disaster or Emergency – (CDC)

emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp

Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)

emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR publications are prepared by CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html

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- [State Laws Prohibiting Sales to Minors and Indoor Use of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems — United States, November 2014](#)
- [Estimated Influenza Illnesses and Hospitalizations Averted by Vaccination — United States, 2013–14 Influenza Season](#)
- [Airport Exit and Entry Screening for Ebola — August–November 10, 2014](#)
- [Ebola Virus Disease in Health Care Workers — Sierra Leone, 2014](#)
- [Rapid Assessment of Ebola Infection Prevention and Control Needs — Six Districts, Sierra Leone, October 2014](#)
- [Clinical Inquiries Regarding Ebola Virus Disease Received by CDC — United States, July 9–November 15, 2014](#)
- [Announcement: Updated Recommendations for HIV Prevention with Adults and Adolescents with HIV in the United States](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

Seasonal Influenza

What You Should Know for the 2014-2015 Influenza Season

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2014-2015.htm>

Information for Health Professionals

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm>

Weekly Flu View – December 6 (CDC)

Flu View is a weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by CDC's Influenza Division. All data are preliminary and may change as CDC receives more reports.

www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

Planning and Preparedness: Health Professionals and Seasonal Flu – (HHS)

Healthcare providers play an important role during flu season. The following guidance and information will assist healthcare providers and service organizations to plan and respond to seasonal flu.

www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – December 11 (U.S. Department of State)

The U.S. Department of State issues Travel Warnings when long-term, protracted conditions make a country dangerous or unstable. Travel Warnings recommend that Americans avoid or carefully consider the risk of travel to that country. The State Department also issues Travel Warnings when the U.S. government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of State Department staff.

travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html

Food, Drug, and Device Safety

MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (FDA)

MedWatch is your Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.

www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/default.htm

FoodSafety.gov: Reports of FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting, and Resources – (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)

Foodsafety.gov lists notices of recalls and alerts from both FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Visitors to the site can report a problem or make inquiries.

www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html

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The Healthcare Preparedness Activity in the Division of Strategic National Stockpile, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

For information about this update or other clinical issues, or to send your feedback, please contact us at

coca@cdc.gov

[CDC Health Partners Outreach Facebook page](#) – real time updates, guidance, and situational awareness for public health partners on Facebook

[Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity](#) – resources for health care providers

[COCA RSS Feed](#) – subscribe to be notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers

[Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication Training](#) – training program that draws from lessons learned during public health emergencies, and incorporates best practices from the fields of risk and crisis communication

[Health Alert Network](#) – CDC's primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories



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